



RETI 2017 IN OKINAWA

"FUTURE PERSPECTIVES FOR ISLAND SOCIETY: SUSTAINABILITY AND SELF-MANAGEMENT"

[DATES] NOVEMBER 17 – 21, 2017

[VENUE] UNIVERSITY OF THE RYUKYUS, OKINAWA, JAPAN

ORGANIZED BY:

RÉSEAU D'EXCELLENCE DES TERRITOIRES INSULAIRES (RETI),
UNIVERSITY OF THE RYUKYUS,
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OKINAWAN STUDIES(IIOS)

RETI 2017 SYMPOSIUM IN OKINAWA **Welcome Remarks**

Hajime OSHIRO
President
University of the Ryukyus



I would like to warmly welcome RETI President Dr. Mulholland, RETI Director Dr. Graziani, the representatives of RETI member universities, and all the participants to our university. On behalf of the University of the Ryukyus, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt welcome message to all the guests here today.

As you know, RETI was established in 2010 to promote academic collaboration among island universities and currently consists of 27 member universities in 16 countries and areas all over the world. The University of the Ryukyus is the only member university in Asia.

It is our great honor to host the RETI 2017 Symposium at our university as the first RETI conference held in Asia. We are most pleased that 85 participants in total are attending the RETI Symposium in Okinawa, including 47 participants from 12 countries and areas. We sincerely hope you will have the opportunity to enjoy the rich culture and nature of Okinawa during your stay here.

The University of the Ryukyus was established in 1950, under the U.S. Military Government after World War II, as the first institution of higher education in Okinawa. At present, the University consists of 7 Faculties and 9 Graduate Schools, and has more than 8,200 students in total.

Based on the philosophy of a “Land Grant University,” the University of the Ryukyus aims to help create a prosperous future society in collaboration with local communities. The University also aims to serve as an outstanding international hub of education and research in the Asia-Pacific region by taking advantage of its academic strengths in research, especially in the new academic fields “TIMES”: Tropical, Marine, Medical, and Island Sciences.

Our university has established academic collaboration mainly with universities on islands in the Asia-Pacific region, such as New Caledonia, Palau, Guam and Taiwan. We share various common characteristics and issues, such as biodiversity, coral reefs, island disaster management, public health, island economics, inheritance of culture, and promote collaborative research in such fields.

We are aiming to expand our academic collaboration to island universities in Europe and the Atlantic region, by taking advantage of the RETI Network, and to island universities all over the world in the future. To pursue our aims, it is truly meaningful to host the RETI Symposium at our university and share research findings related to common issues in islands among researchers. We sincerely hope that this symposium will provide us with various opportunities to enhance our academic collaboration among researchers on island studies and in island universities.

I sincerely hope for a fruitful and productive symposium.

WELCOME TO RETI 2017 IN OKINAWA

From the RETI President, Professor Clive MULHOLLAND



A very warm welcome to all students, researchers and staff attending our annual symposium and sincere thanks to our hosts, the University of the Ryukyus, for their excellent hospitality.

The RETI network (Réseau d'Excellence des Territoires Insulaires) was established in 2010 to bring together island universities from all over the world to create a common environment for academic and scientific work from islands on the subject of island status.

We now have 27 members across the globe and over the past 7 years we have supported a number of RETI events, student and staff exchanges and joint project work.

In 2017 the challenges for, and the potential contributions from, island communities are rising up the list of global policy priorities, recognising the particular effects of climate change and the value of creativity and entrepreneurship that typify island communities.

Our theme this year is '*Future Perspectives for Island Society: Sustainability and Self-Management*' and we have an impressive list of speakers and presentations, giving participants the opportunity to share experiences of both concerns and solutions. However, we aim for our conclusions to reach a wider audience, contributing towards the wider policy debate on island communities.

As well as participating in the formal programme, there will be opportunities to network with many of the current and future members of RETI. We hope you will take advantage of this and that new opportunities for exchanges and collaboration will follow on from this event. If so, please keep us informed – we'd like to know!

I look forward to meeting you over the course of the symposium, but in the meantime, please enjoy the event.

With best wishes

Prof Clive Mulholland
BSc, PhD, CSci, FIBMS, SFHEA, FRSA
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
University of the Highlands and Islands
President of the RETI Network

RETI 2017 in Okinawa Symposium Schedule

Day 1, Friday, November 17th, 2017	
9:00 - 9:30	<i>Registration</i>
Room 1&2 (1st Floor)	
9:30 - 9:50	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Welcome Remarks Hajime Oshiro, President, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>Opening Remarks Clive Mulholland, President of the RETI Network Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of the Highlands and Islands (Scottish Islands, UK)</p>
9:50 - 11:15	<p>Keynote Speeches</p> <p>"Island Studies and the Role of Island Universities" Godfrey Baldacchino, Professor, University of Malta (Malta, Malta)</p> <p>"Memorial University: Fulfilling a Special Obligation to the People of Newfoundland and Labrador" Robert Greenwood, Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland (Newfoundland, Canada)</p>
11:15 - 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 - 12:30	<p>Session 1: Education I</p> <p>Chair: Linda Stewart, University of Highlands and Islands, (Scottish Islands, UK)</p> <p>"Universities to promote and implement cleaner production strategies in island society: Cienfuegos University experience" by Juan B. Cogollo Martinez, University of Cienfuegos (Cuba, Cuba)</p> <p>"The RETI university network as an international mobility platform" by Carmen Rubio Armendáriz, University of La Laguna (Canary Islands, Spain)</p>
12:30 - 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
Room 1 (1st Floor) Room 2 (1st Floor)	
13:30 - 15:00	<p>Session 2A: Panel Session "Mobility and Stability in Forming Island Communities in Multidisciplinary Perspectives" presented by Research Project on "Establishing Regional Science for Small Islands as an Academic Discipline toward Development of Autonomous Island Communities"</p> <p>Moderator Ikue Kina, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>Panelists Makoto Motomura, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan) Shin Yamashiro, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan) Kinuko Yamazato, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p>
13:30 - 15:00	<p>Session 2B: Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 1</p> <p>Chair: Kaoruko Miyakuni, University of the Ryukyus, (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"The challenges and opportunities of the scuba diving industry in island tourism: focus on Malta." by Simon Caruana, University of Malta (Malta, Malta)</p> <p>"Ecotourism : a solution for island economies?" by Justine Muzy, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p> <p>"Community-based Sustainable Cultural Tourism for Small Islands: the Case of Bali's Cultural Landscape" by Wiwik Dharmiasih, Universitas Udayana (Bali, Indonesia)</p>
15:00 - 15:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:15 - 17:15	<p>Session 3A: Diversity in Island Perspective: Culture, Nature, Language, Gender and Society, Part 1</p> <p>Chair: Ikue Kina, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Mapping the Communicative Ecology of Amami Islands" by Evangelia Papoutsaki, Unitec (Auckland, New Zealand) and Sueo Kuwahara, Kagoshima University (Kagoshima, Japan)</p> <p>"Adat as an Avenue for Reclaiming Land: History, Actors, and Practices in the Fight for Indonesia's Island Landscapes" by Micah Radandima Fisher, University of Hawai'i (Hawai'i, U.S.A)</p> <p>"Conditioning the hosts: local participation in tourism activities in northern Okinawa" by Sayaka Sakuma, University of Hawaii at Manoa, (Hawai'i, U.S.A)</p> <p>"Maritime Writing and Island History at Crossroads — M.A.Benyowsky on Amami Ōshima" by Szymon Gredżuk, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p>
15:15 - 17:15	<p>Session 3B: Island Sustainability</p> <p>Chair: Takeshi Matsumoto, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Homestead Trees in Island Topography, its Cultural and Historical Context and Present Challenges" by Bixia Chen, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Natural Disasters in the Ryukyu Island Arc Located in the Western Pacific Subtropical Area" by Takeshi Matsumoto, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Evaluating the effect of 'Biochar' on Soil Quality, while 'Sequestering Soil Carbon' for island Sustainability" by Mohammad H. Golabi, University of Guam (Guam, U.S.A)</p> <p>"Sustainable management of an insular groundwater-dependent ecosystem: lessons learnt from the Biguglia lagoon (Corsica)" by Mélanie Eröstate, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p>
18:00 - 20:00	<i>Reception</i>

Day 2, Saturday, November 18th, 2017

8:30 - 9:00		Registration	
Room 1&2 (1st Floor)		Room 3 (2nd Floor)	
9:00 - 10:00	<p>Session 4A: Energy and Environment Chair: James E. Randall, University of Prince Edward Island, (Prince Edward Island, Canada)</p> <p>"Optimum Facilities and Operations for Renewable Energy in Isolated Small Islands" by Tomonobu Senju, University of the Ryukyus, (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Understanding the role of universities' technology transfer activities in the economic development of islands" by Laura Ciucci, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p>	9:00 - 10:00	<p>Session 4B: Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 2 Chair: Soyo Takahashi, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Seaweed in island economies - what can we learn from the past?" by Magdalena Blanz, University of the Highlands and Islands (Scottish Islands, U.K)</p> <p>"The Forms and Characteristics of Stone Fish Weirs in Penghu: an Investigation from 2005 to 2012" by Ming-Ju Lee and Hui-kuei Hsieh, National Penghu University of Science and Technology (Taiwan, Taiwan)</p>
10:00 - 10:10	<i>Coffee Break</i>	10:00 - 10:40	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:10 - 12:10	<p>Session 5A: Relationship with Externalities: "Mainlands," "Great Powers," and Other Islands/Islanders and the Power of Local Communities Part I Chair: Eiichi Hoshino, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"In search of stable peace and security—a three-islands initiative Peace for the Sea" by Katarzyna Podlipska, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Dependency theory and the Philippines' BOP Performance" by Pedro Munoz-Ramirez, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Dependence or independence for former colonial island territories : an empirical analysis" by Claire Goavec, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p> <p>"Political Protest from the Periphery: Social Movements and Global Citizenship in Okinawa" by Gabriele Vogt, University of Hamburg (Hamburg, Germany)</p>	10:40 - 12:10	<p>Session 5B: Panel Session "Conservation of Island ecosystem in Palau and Japan. Chair: Takashi Nakamura, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Introduction & P-CoRIE coral reef survey/Mass bleaching in Okinawa" by Takashi Nakamura, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Long-term spatial dynamics and recovery processes of coral reef communities in Palau, Micronesia" by Marine Gouezo, Palau International Coral Reef Center (Koror, Palau)</p> <p>"Biodiversity in Palau coral reefs" by Giovanni Massuci and Piera Biondi, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Biodiversity of sea pens in Palau" by Yuka Kushida, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Preliminary survey of Waminoa flatworms from Palau" by Shiori Kunihiro, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Island Tourism in Palau" by Kaoruko Miyakuni, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Evaluating the impact of sewage on coral reefs in Palau" by Evelyn Otto, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Effectiveness and Connectivity of Palau's Protected Areas Network (PAN)" by Golbuu Yimnang, Palau International Coral Reef Center (Koror, Palau)</p> <p>"Closing discussion on: Future research/education collaborations among Palau, Japan and other countries"</p> <p>"Suggestions on Coral reef conservation/restoration in Japan."</p>
12:10 - 13:10	<i>Lunch</i>		

Room 1&2 (1st Floor)		Room 3 (2nd Floor)	
13:10 - 14:40	<p>Session 6A: Relationship with Externalities: "Mainlands," "Great Powers," and Other Islands/Islanders and the Power of Local Communities Part 2 Chair: Godfrey Baldacchino, University of Malta (Malta, Malta)</p> <p>"Universidad de La Laguna: alternative attractiveness based on Research Institutes" by Carmen Rubio Armendariz, University of La Laguna (Canary Islands, Spain)</p> <p>"The identity value of Corsican production" by Dominique Prunetti and Claudio Detotto, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p> <p>"Community food resilience island style" by John Matthew Stansfield, Unitec (Auckland, New Zealand)</p>	13:10 - 14:10	<p>Session 6B-1: Diversity in Island Perspective: Culture, Nature, Language, Gender and Society, Part 2 Chair: Ikue Kina, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"The Will To Live: Shang Shang Typhoon and the Musicality of Identity in anime movie "Ponpoko: The Heisei Tanuki War" (1994, Studio Ghibli/Takahata Isao)" by Maria Mihaela Grajdian, Nagasaki University (Nagasaki, Japan)</p> <p>"Stewardship, Sustainability, and Hula: Applications for Traditional Knowledge in a Contemporary Context" by Chai Blair-Stahn, Hawai'i Nature Center (Hawai'i, U.S.A)</p>
(14:40 - 14:45)	(5-min Break)	(14:10 - 14:15)	(5-min Break)
14:45 - 15:45	<p>"Asian influences in Palau" by Yuping Chen, Taipei Medical University, (Taiwan, Taiwan)</p> <p>"Environmental politics and islander innovation: Small island developing states as leaders on climate change" by James Ellsmoor, University of the Highlands and Islands (Scottish Islands, U.K)</p>	14:15 - 15:15	<p>Session 6B-2: Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 3 Chair: Yoko Fujita, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan)</p> <p>"Income Inequalities and Insularity : Theoretical and empirical exploration from the case of Corsica" by Julien Ciucci, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p> <p>"Sustainable development is a huge opportunity to create Tomorrow's island societies" by Mathieu Nivon, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p>
15:45 - 15:55	<i>Coffee Break</i>	15:15 - 15:25	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:55 - 17:25	<p>Session 7A: Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 4 Chair: James E. Randall, University of Prince Edward Island, (Prince Edward Island, Canada)</p> <p>"Cultural identity and willingness to protect and preserve art" by Claudio Detotto, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p> <p>"Economic interests vs Environmental conservation in islands : the case of Akamas, Cyprus " by Pantelina Emmanouilidou, University of Limoges, CRIDEAU (Limoges, France)</p> <p>"Using Moran's I and GIS to study the spatial pattern in apartment prices in Corsica" by Yuheng Ling, University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli (Corsica, France)</p>	15:25 - 17:25	<p>Session 7B: Education Part 2 Chair: Linda Stewart, University of Highlands and Islands (Scottish Islands, U.K)</p> <p>"Internationalising Spanish Universities to Increase Intercultural Understanding: the Challenge of an Island University in Europe" by Richard Clouet, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Canary Islands, Spain)</p> <p>"Global Engagement: Cultivating English Education Programs Through Videoconference Collaboration" by Minako Yogi, University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan) and Manuel Hechanova, University of Guam (Guam, U.S.A)</p> <p>"Island schools and their communities" by John Matthew Stansfield, Unitec (Auckland, New Zealand)</p> <p>"Challenges and opportunities of postgraduate studies in the University of La Laguna (Canary Islands)" by Carmen Rubio Armendariz, University of La Laguna (Canary Islands, Spain)</p>
17:25 - 17:30	<i>Break</i>		
Room 1&2 (1st Floor)			
17:30 - 17:45	<i>Closing Session</i>		

RETI 2017 Excursion

Sunday, November 19th, 2017		
Time	Schedule	Remarks
9 :00	Leaving at Kencho-mae Bus Stop	Naha City
10 :00~10 :50	Visiting at Zakimi Castle Remains	Yomitan Village
11:15~11:30	Kadena Air Base periphery	
11 :30~11 :45	Michinoeki-Kadena (Roadside Station) Overvatory [Explanation by Dr. Masaaki Gabe, University of the Ryukyus]	Kadena Town
11 :45~12 :45	Lunch at Michinoeki-Kadena	Kadena Town
14 :00~14 :45	Visiting Bise Village [Explanation by Dr. Bixia Chen, University of the Ryukyus]	Motobu Town
15:00~16:30	Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium (Ocean Expo Park)	Motobu Town
16 :30	Leaving Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium	
18 :00	Arriving at Naha (Kencho-mae Bus Stop)	Naha City

RETI 2017 Autumn School

Day 1, Monday, November 20th, 2017	
9:00 - 9:30	<i>Registration</i>
9:30 - 10:15	<i>"A Study on Distribution Morphology and Action of Disaster prevention rituals in the Ryukyu Archipelago"</i> Dr. Moriaki Miyahira(University of the Ryukyus)
10:15 - 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 - 12:00	<i>"On the Izaihō Ritual of Kudaka Island"</i> Professor Masanobu Akamine(University of the Ryukyus)
12:00 - 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 - 14:15	<i>"Prehistoric chronology and island adaptation in the Ryukyu islands"</i> Dr. Kaishi Yamagiwa(University of the Ryukyus)
14:15 - 14:30	<i>Break</i>
14:30 - 16:00	<i>"The Possibilities of Phylogenetic Research on the Ryukyuan Languages" (Tentative)</i> Professor Shigehisa Karimata (University of the Ryukyus)

Day 2, Tuesday, November 21st, 2017	
9:00 - 9:30	<i>Registration</i>
9:30 - 10:30	<i>Campus Tour</i>
10:30 - 12:00	<i>"Social intimacy, economic monopoly and political totality: some conversations and exercises about the 'small scale syndrome' "</i> Professor Godfrey Baldacchino (University of Malta)
12:00 - 12:15	<i>Break</i>
12:15 - 12:30	<i>Closing Ceremony/Presentation of Certificates</i>

Keynote Speeches

Date: Friday, Nov. 17

Time: 9:50-11:15

Venue: Room 1&2

Keynote Speaker

Name: Godfrey BALDACCHINO

Title: Pro-Rector (International Development & Quality Assurance) and Professor of Sociology, University of Malta; UNESCO co-Char (Island Studies & Sustainability), University of Prince Edward Island, Canada; President, International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA).



Education: BA, PGCE (Malta), MA (The Hague), PhD (Warwick)

Academic Career: Research Assistant, Research Officer, Lecturer, Associate Professor, Full Professor at the University of Malta (since 1982); Canada Research Chair (Island Studies), University of Prince Edward Island, Canada (2003-2013).

Academic Awards: Various scholarships, awards and commissions. Generated around US\$1million in research funding. Authored or edited over 40 books and monographs, as well as over 130 peer-reviewed book chapters and journal articles. Launched and edited *Island Studies Journal* from 2006 to 2016.

[Title of keynote speech]: **Island Studies and the Role of Island Universities**

[Abstract]:

The world is full of islands; yet, we typically relegate islands to peripheral and marginal considerations. Instead, we should unsettle our continental paradigms and re-centre the study of islands. All the more so when there are island universities who can take on this challenge and take solace and find inspiration from each other in this mission.

This presentation will first review eight basic parameters that foreground the study of islands: boundedness (land-sea); size / scale; isolation; fragmentation; location; amplification by compression; jurisdiction / governance; and imagination and experimentation. It will then ask what are the advantages and disadvantages of having an island university. It will next explore the role of island universities in the 21st century, and distinguish between a basic and an ambitious template for this task.

Keynote Speaker



Name: Robert GREENWOOD

Title: Executive Director, Public Engagement & the Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Education: BA Hons (Memorial University of Newfoundland), MA (York University), Ph.D. (Warwick)

Academic Career: 1991-1999: Joint Appointment / Adjunct Appointment, Faculty of Business Administration, Memorial University & Government of Newfoundland; 1999-2004 Adjunct Appointment, Faculty of Business, University of Regina; 2004-present Executive Director, Public Engagement and the Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, Memorial University

Academic Awards: Over \$1.25M in research grants as PI; Co-editor of 3 books; 18 Peer Reviewed Journal Articles, Book Chapters and Case Studies; 28 invited keynote presentations in 6 countries; Honorary Professor, Universidad Tecnica de Oruro, Bolivia; Visiting Scholar, Australia University-Community Engagement Alliance; Commonwealth Scholarship

[Title of keynote speech]: Memorial University: Fulfilling a Special Obligation to the People of Newfoundland and Labrador

[Abstract]:

Memorial University is the only university in the Canadian Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. With just over half a million residents, NL is traditionally dependent on natural resource industries, but with resource decline, global competition and technology gains, these industries employ far fewer people. Memorial's legislation, dating to 1949 when the Province joined Canada, established a Special Obligation of the university to the people of the province, including contributing to social and economic development. While maintaining the full range of programming of a comprehensive university, Memorial has established strengths in teaching and learning, research and public engagement relating to key priorities for the provincial economy and society. It is also a key element of the province's population strategy, including attracting national and international students, and dramatically growing graduate student numbers. These strategies present opportunities and challenges for Memorial, in its relationships with governments and the people of the province.

Session 1

Education

Date: Friday, Nov. 17

Time: 11:30-12:30

Venue: Room 1&2

Universities to promote and implement cleaner production strategies in island society: Cienfuegos University experience

Juan Bautista COGOLLOS MARTÍNEZ

Mechanical Engineering

Universidad de Cienfuegos (University of Cienfuegos)

[Abstract]

The involvement of universities is crucial to identify how Cleaner Production (CP) strategies are formed in practice so that companies integrate sustainability into their strategies. This presentation discusses the experience of establishing and operating the Cleaner Production Center (CPC) at the University of Cienfuegos. From 2008–2016, the University of Cienfuegos, the Free University of Brussels (Belgium) and the University of Leuven (Belgium) implemented a project, financially supported by the Flemish Interuniversity Council (Belgium) allowing establishing a CPC at the University of Cienfuegos. So far, the collaboration allowed to establish a master program on Cleaner Production that constitutes a bridge between the university and the Production and Service Sector (PSS), allowing to promote and implement cleaner production strategies. 34 master students graduated during two graduations and a third one is ongoing. Among the most important results of the master thesis were the yearly reduction of the emission of 60 000 t/a of carbon dioxide equivalent and of the electricity consumption by 400 MW h/a at a cement plant. Research activities on Cleaner Production were upgraded through the collaboration resulting in several publications in peer-reviewed journals with impact factor. This case study offers an interesting practice example about developing academic values on Cleaner Production.

The main lesson learned from this experience is the protagonist role of the CPC to promote CP in the PSS. On the one hand by introducing CP from inside the company. On the other hand, because of its global view of the environmental issues and of the PSS of the city, by providing a broader assessment with the surroundings and an organizational analysis.

More substantive contributions to improve resource efficiency and environmental performance in the PSS in Cienfuegos are possible. Moreover, there is the potential for cooperation and networking with other HEIs to mainstream CP applications.

The RETI university network as an international mobility platform

Carmen RUBIO ARMENDARIZ

Vice rectorate for Internationalization

Universidad de La Laguna (University of La Laguna)

[Abstract]

The international mobility of academic communities is a growing trend that adds the value of any higher education institution in a global world. Many European RETI members are beneficiaries of the European Erasmus+ program that enables the mobility of students, professors and administrative staff. However, the academic mobility of the European institutions must open its borders and diversify its partners. The aim of this presentation is to propose the possibility of creating an intrinsic RETI mobility network where its participants can access diverse funding sources such as the extra-community Erasmus+ to exchange students and participate in joint cooperation projects that lead to the sharing of skills and abilities. The design of a solid mobility and academic cooperation project with the support of RETI as a network will foster cultural exchange between our countries and create transversal links to all the departments of our institutions. We are a group of 27 universities spread across 5 continents so why not put our international relations offices in contact with each other to promote a joint internationalization? Studying the languages of our partners should be an attraction for our students. For example, Spanish universities (La Laguna, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, The Balearic Islands) or the University of Cienfuegos in Cuba should be the destinations to study Spanish for students at the other RETI universities.

Session 2A: Panel Session

*“Mobility and Stability in Forming
Island Communities in
Multidisciplinary Perspectives”*

presented by Research Project on

“Establishing Regional Science for Small Islands as an
Academic Discipline toward Development of
Autonomous Island Communities”

Date: Friday, Nov. 17

Time: 13:30-15:00

Venue: Room 1

Mobility and Stability in Forming Island Communities in Multidisciplinary Perspectives

Ikue KINA, University of the Ryukyus (Moderator)

Makoto MOTOMURA, University of the Ryukyus

Shin YAMASHIRO, University of the Ryukyus

Kinuko YAMAZATO, University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

This panel, comprising three presentations by the researchers affiliated with the International Institute for Okinawan Studies at University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa, illuminates the status of “island” and “island community” in multifaceted perspectives in association with the ideas of mobility and stability, the characteristics to be taken into account in examining how island communities have been formulated. Shin Yamashiro’s paper “The Shift between the Oceanic and the Terrestrial: An Alternative Perspective on Islands,” surveying some of the key features of an island discussed in the fields such as anthropology, ethnography, biology, and/or literature, attempts to re-conceptualize “islands” by suggesting the “water” as an alternative framework. Kinuko Yamazato’s paper “Acquiring Cultural Capital through US Study Abroad: Identity Formation and Negotiation of Beiryu Gumi in US Occupied Okinawa,” a study of the “Beiryu Gumi,” a group of Okinawan students who were given the opportunity to study at higher educational institutions in the US by US government scholarships during the US Occupation of Okinawa, is also an implication of how the geographical, historical, and political situations of the island could condition its community. Another presentation, Makoto Motomura’s “Community Maintenance in ‘Island Area’: Lessons from Periphery in Asia” is part of his findings from a collaborative project exploring the method of maintaining tradition and communal functions in geographically and socially isolated areas in Asia. His study, noting the isolation analogous to the situation of islands, points out how “island-ness” could be a contributing or hindering factor to enabling stability and sustenance of island communities in Okinawa.

Session 2B

Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 1

Date: Friday, Nov. 17

Time: 13:30-15:00

Venue: Room 2

The challenges and opportunities of the scuba diving industry in island tourism: focus on Malta.

Simon CARUANA

University Junior College/Institute of Tourism, Travel and Culture

University of Malta

[Abstract]

Tourism, often a key sector in island economies, presents significant challenges associated with seasonality, affecting all the islands' utilities and services. Staff turnover is another. The diving industry is no exception, adding its own niche-related challenges. Scuba diving tends to be concentrated on a number of dive sites. Dive sites get crowded during peak season, aquatic life may be disturbed and conflicts may arise with other stakeholders (e.g. fishermen, boat users), resulting in a negative (diving) experience.

The Maltese scuba diving sector has developed into a significant niche market. In 2014, 7% of all the visitors to the Maltese Islands were directly associated with scuba diving activities (110,000). Apart from club diving, there are now persons who visit to initiate or continue their diving education up to a professional (instructor) level. New categories have been successfully marketed, such as technical diving and more recently, free diving (Apnea).

The constant increase in visitors is a cause for concern in terms of sustainability prompting the Maltese authorities to respond on various fronts. New dive sites have been identified and others have been enhanced if not created from scratch by scuttling vessels to serve as 'artificial wrecks'. Accessibility to the shoreline has been improved and many dive sites can now cater for divers who may have mobility needs. Additional marketing for the low season to offset seasonality has been carried out, albeit with mixed results.

A comprehensive legislative framework governing the industry was implemented. Other legislation banned all forms of fishing off limits on the major diving sites, spearfishing with scuba has been banned and marine parks are planned.

However, more needs to be done in terms of boat moorings and diver behaviour. Engagement with other stakeholders such as hoteliers, fish farm operators, boat rental operators and many others, is vital in ensuring a more sustainable diving sector.

Ecotourism : a solution for island economies?

Justine MUZY

IAE de Corse

Université de Corse (University of Corsica)

[Abstract]

Islands often have all the attributes required for tourism activity, starting with the presence of the sea. Thus, some island economies have been relying on tourism for greater or lesser periods of time to develop their territories. It is the case for most of the Mediterranean islands, but not only: examples could be found in any sea or ocean.

However, the negative impacts of tourism were demonstrated many times: destruction or degradation of ecosystems, pollution, folklorisation, social inequality, chaotic urbanization; traditional forms of tourism can cause serious issues. As some populations rise against “mass tourism”, it seems crucial to think of solutions to counter or prevent the detrimental effects of tourism by setting up practices that would be environmentally compatible and respectful of local communities. – as well as economically viable in the long run.

In that way, ecotourism seems appealing: “responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people, and involves interpretation and education” (TIES, 2015).

On this basis, many initiatives are taken around the world towards “eco-tourism”, and if some of them are promising, other attempts are clearly disappointing and their impacts are similar to those caused by “traditional” or mass-tourism.

Hence, this presentation will propose a reflexion around eco-tourism in an island environment based on a literature review of both English and French-language papers. It will present a panorama of current ecotourism practices on various islands and of the issues tied to ecotourism, and will try to reflect upon how to implement a viable form of ecotourism in general and in an island environment.

Community-based Sustainable Cultural Tourism for Small Islands: the Case of Bali's Cultural Landscape

Wiwik DHARMIASIH

Department of International Relations

Universitas Udayana (Udayana University)

[Abstract]

Bali is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. The perception of pristine beaches, picturesque landscapes, tropical climate and unique cultural practices makes Bali a unique destination. Bali's cultural landscape is shaped by its traditional agrarian practices governed by the subak, a traditional rice irrigation system. The rapidly growing tourism industry in the island, introduced during the colonial era, has slowly replaced Bali's agrarian society towards different ends. Such changes are especially evident in recent years, which show that almost 1,000 hectares of rice-fields are reported converted into other uses every year. Numerous stakeholders expressed concern over the impacts, not only for rapid environmental change, but also for the overall cultural heritage and identity of the island. As a result, the Bali Provincial Government, overseen by the Indonesia's Ministry of Culture and Tourism worked to successfully nominate the subak system as a UNESCO World Heritage List in 2012. Since inscription however, the site has faced new development pressures and increasing land conversion, precisely because of demands and dynamics from the tourism sector. Indeed changes have threatened the overall integrity of the subak system. During the ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory Mission in 2015, the Government of Indonesia were called upon to strengthen the overall management of the UNESCO Site in Bali. Suggestion included greater engagement and support from subak communities, involving them in more detailed strategic planning, especially addressing the need to safeguard water catchment areas and support for traditional practices to foster sustainable cultural tourism. Currently, plans are underway to implement community-based sustainable cultural tourism as an effort to return to more responsible management by engaging local communities. In this paper, I will highlight the efforts to establish and implement community-based tourism management programs and activities in light of other stakeholders.

Session 3A

Diversity in Island Perspective:
Culture, Nature, Language,
Gender and Society, Part 1

Date: Friday, Nov. 17

Time: 15:15-17:15

Venue: Room 1

Mapping the Communicative Ecology of Amami Islands

Evangelia PAPOUTSAKI and Sueo KUWAHARA

Communication Studies/Unitec and Center for Pacific Islands Research

UNITEC and Kagoshima University

[Abstract]

This paper presents the preliminary findings of an ongoing research that seeks to map the communicative ecology of Amami Islands, south of the Japanese archipelago. Their unique micro-communicative ecology makeup and distinctive geographical and cultural identity provide a rich case study for this approach. In this research, the communicative ecology approach refers to the various forms, resources, activities, channels and flows of communication and information used by an island or group of islands.

The research aims at developing an in-depth understating of the Amami Islands communicative environment as it forms part of existing island communities' structures; identifying key communicative practices that contribute to sustaining Amami islands sociocultural cohesion; exploring the role of media, in particular community radio, in localized information flows unique to the islands; and identifying future areas of research of value to Amami Islands and the field of Islands Studies especially through the application of the communicative ecology mapping approach.

Mapping as a methodology enables a broader comprehension of the complexity of specific island communities and allows for the exploration of the various types of communication activity island people are engaged in (locally, trans-locally, intra-island, inter-island, trans-peripheral, national etc.), the resources available and the understanding of how these can be used in sustaining island communities. The findings of this research are grouped around three layers: a social layer consisting of people and social modes of organizing those people; a technological layer consisting of the devices and connecting media that enable communication and interaction; and a discursive layer consisting of the content of communication.

Adat as an Avenue for Reclaiming Land: History, Actors, and Practices in the Fight for Indonesia's Island Landscapes

Micah Radandima FISHER

Geography

University of Hawaii

[Abstract]

Indonesia is the fourth largest nation by population and the largest archipelagic nation in the world. With over 17,000 islands, it is difficult to imagine how such diversity of language and culture could come together under one nationalist identity. Adat, historically described as custom but more recently translated as indigeneity, provided the anti-colonialist convening power that discursively brought very diverse regions under one nationalist identity and gained independence after World War II. However, Indonesia's development for over 30 years (1965 – 1998) under the leadership of President Suharto, relegated indigeneity as something for the most remote regions and cast such notions upon backwards anti-modernist populations. Upon the end of Suharto's authoritarian leadership, adat was revived as a unifying idea and avenue for making localized claims to identity, power, and demand rights to land. The idea of adat has emboldened a national advocacy movement that boasts 17 million members who pronounce land claims to over 40 million hectares, which is larger than the land area of Japan. Contestation over land rights are perhaps one of the defining issues for the future sustainability across Indonesia's thousands of islands. Indeed, expansion in mineral extraction and plantation operations has transformed Indonesia's landscapes, leading to labels such as the fastest deforesting country and highest emitter of greenhouse gases from land use change. Dramatic wildland fires and haze, followed by landslide and floods, has also been called an environmental catastrophe. Both environmental and rights advocacy groups place their hopes in adat recognition as a way to promote decentralized land governance, noting opportunities for social justice among marginalized groups and pathways to protecting forest landscapes. In this paper, I will examine the history, actors, and practices that define the current formulation of adat as an avenue for resistance and an approach at different levels for making land claims.

Conditioning the hosts: local participation in tourism activities in northern Okinawa

Sayaka SAKUMA

Geography

University of Hawaii at Manoa

[Abstract]

This presentation shares how hosting guests is becoming a part of everyday practice among villages in northern Okinawa Island, Japan. Drawing on participant observation and interviews, the study illustrates how local actors take part in tourism development while providing more authentic visitor experiences than conventional resort development. This study presents an example of local participation in developing tourism products by paying attention to the ways in which multifaceted and multiscale efforts mold the villages into a tourism destination where visitors experience intimate encounters with the locals. It further suggests that these tourism-related activities enable rural communities to reframe the place from a community struggling with resource scarcity to a place imbued with abundant cultural and natural features.

Maritime Writing and Island History at Crossroads - M.A.Benyowsky on AmamiŌshima

Szymon Gredźuk

University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

With the advance of global exploration separate histories and cultures started to intertwine and develop together. Local events in the contact zones became joined in the network of global history. There are scarcely any places physically undiscovered by now, but volumes of literature waiting to be read in order to rediscover and reinvent the places known well. Literature can connect the islands, just as the seas and oceans do. That is why maritime travel writing in particular can be a reference to look for the interconnected island histories and prospective economic resources.

In this presentation I would like to analyse a case study of a particular travel journal - *Memoirs and Travels of M.A.Benyowsky (1790)* and the perspective it shows on Amami Ōshima, one of the Ryukyus, in comparison with available history sources. Its author managed to navigate a stolen vessel filled with fellow mutineers from Kamchatka to Macau, and out of necessity touched on entirely random places like Aogashima, Shikoku, Amami or Taiwan.

Adventurous life of this cosmopolitan and self-proclaimed King of Madagascar was fabulous enough for the contemporary hype of sentimental travel writing, yet embellished and republished it proved to be an increasingly popular story, with further potential to be utilized globally. I would like to explore the possibilities of using a literary source to develop a local tourism attraction and incorporate a foreign story into local history in global context.

Session 3B
Island Sustainability

Date: Friday, Nov. 17

Time: 15:15-17:15

Venue: Room 2

Homestead Trees in Island Topography, its Cultural and Historical Context and Present Challenges

Bixia CHEN

Faculty of Agriculture

University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

Fengshui has been introduced to Okinawa, the then Ryukyu Kingdom, at the end of the 14th Century by Chinese immigrants. Comparatively newly applied in the East Asia Region, however, fengshui seems to have a profound influence on the settlement landscape, cemetery building, landscape tree planting, and forestry administration. The essential concept to fengshui in the Ryukyu Island is hougo (抱護), literally meaning “embraced protection.”

Consequently, fengshui practice, adaptive to the severe nature of winter wind and typhoons in summer in the Ryukyu Islands, utilizes tree planting to achieve an ideal fengshui environment. At present, villages with prevalent Fukugi (*Garcinia subelliptica*) trees distribute widely on the islands in Okinawa Prefecture and north to Okinoerabu Island in Amami Islands.

This study aims to compile an inventory of remaining old-growth trees that were planted along the borderlines of the homestead as windbreak and to explore to the conservation status of the old trees. Two survey sites were selected in the Sakishima Island (the southernmost part of Okinawa Prefecture, Japan). It was found that the tree lines standing at the north and east sides of the houses have been intentionally protected and are better conserved than the lines at the south and west sides. There is an average density of approximately 0.8 (S.D. = 0.32) trees per meter. The conservation and maintenance of old-growth trees within the homestead depends on both natural and human factors. Exposure to typhoons and monsoon winds are among the most important natural factors that contribute to tree damage. However, human factors are also important for tree cutting or conservation. Residents' awareness of tree conservation determines whether the trees were preserved or cut down.

Natural Disasters in the Ryukyu Island Arc Located in the Western Pacific Subtropical Area

Takeshi MATSUMOTO

Department of Physics and Earth Sciences, Faculty of Science

University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

Ryukyu (Okinawa) Island Arc is located in the Western Pacific subtropical area and also on the Circum-Pacific seismic belt. It consists of small islands surrounded by coral reefs. These situations induce frequently natural disasters characteristic of this area.

Located on the Circum-Pacific seismic belt:

The island arc is facing Ryukyu Trench where the subduction of the Philippine Sea Plate underneath the Eurasian Plate takes place. This tectonic situation induces frequent earthquake events some of which exceeds M7.0, especially, in the Miyako-Yaeyama area, southwesternmost part of the island arc. Since most of the earthquakes occur under the seafloor, the narrow islands should expect hazardous tsunamis in case of large earthquakes. In fact, the Great Meiwa Tsunami in this area in 1771 recorded more than 10,000 victims. Also, many intra-plate active faults some of which split completely the island arc are identified through both on-land and off-shore studies as of now.

Located on the subtropical area in the western Pacific Ocean:

Western Pacific tropical-subtropical area is known as “Western Pacific Warm Pool” (WPWP), which is expanding towards the Ryukyu arc at the northern border. Maximum sea surface temperature (SST) in the summer season exceeds 30 degrees Celsius in this area. This temperature condition is a very good advantage for tropical storms (typhoons) to grow rapidly. Therefore, the typhoons approaching the Ryukyu Islands are strongest (low pressure, high wind speed) and they usually weaken after passing the islands due to low SST and landing on the Japanese mainland. According to the typhoon statistics since 1951 by Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), the average of the number of generation of Typhoon every year is 26.2 and the average of number of approaching within 300 km from the JMA weather station in the Ryukyu Islands area is 7.6. The islanders, especially residents at the lowland should also prepare against the possible storm surge as a typhoon approaches them.

The author would like to emphasise the importance of the preparedness against these kinds of disasters in the classroom together with the schoolteachers' role. Since the major industry of Okinawa Prefecture is tourism, the islanders should always consider how to protect tourists in case of these disasters, too. The author would also like to discuss these subjects during the current presentation.

Evaluating the effect of 'Biochar' on Soil Quality, while 'Sequestering Soil Carbon' for island Sustainability

Mohammad H. GOLABI
Soil Science Labs
University of Guam

[Abstract]

Soil erosion is the most widespread form of soil degradation worldwide. Soil erosion can have a severe depletion effect on Soil Organic Carbon pool. As reported, soil erosion therefore can have a major impact on the global carbon cycle and must be considered while assessing the global 'C' budget in relation to the overall GHG emission into the atmosphere. In addition to the soil organic carbon loss due to soil erosion and soil degradation, carbon dioxide (CO₂) which is produced by microbial activities will also be emitted into the atmosphere as the soil surface becomes exposed to air due to soil erosion causing factors. On the other hand, a larger portion of soil carbon can also be stored in the soil via land based management and by implementing carbon 'Sequestration' practices thus reducing the effect of carbon dioxide (CO₂) on climate change.

Adoption of practices such as the application of 'Biochar' as a soil amendment that not only improves soil quality but it may effectively 'Sequester' the carbon in the soil biota thus, reducing the amount of CO₂ emission upon soil surface disturbances. Toward these goals, we are evaluating the effect of 'Biochar' application not only as soil amendment but also for improving the carbon storage capacity via soil carbon 'Sequestration' technique.

In this presentation we will report the result of the conservation management including the land application of 'Biochar' on the dynamics of soil carbon content and the soil storage capacity under different conservation practices on severely eroded soils of southern Guam. We also report the net carbon loss from the soil under the conventional tillage as compared to the conservation practices (i.e., No-Till) and their effect on soil carbon 'Sequestration' for reducing the net CO₂ emission into the atmosphere.

Sustainable management of an insular groundwater-dependent ecosystem: lessons learnt from the Biguglia lagoon (Corsica)

Mélanie EROSTATE

UMR CNRS 6134 SPE, Hydrogeology department

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

Freshwater, and especially groundwater, is a limited and vulnerable natural heritage for islands and coastal areas. It is a resource for many anthropogenic activities, like drinking supply, irrigated agriculture, industry or tourism, economic pillar for a lot of insular territories. Although essential, groundwater is often victim of a bad management causing a water quality and quantity degradation inducing potential irreversible consequences (decrease in water table, seawater intrusion...). Though, the good management of water to insure a good status of water bodies is essential for the sustainable economic and environmental development of islands. Besides, good quality groundwater resources are fundamental for the ecological preservation of hydraulically connected surface waters and associated ecosystem services. Coastal lagoons are a good example of sensitive surface hydrosystems with major economic and ecologic roles, greatly endangered by modern anthropogenic activities.

This study proposes to investigate the behaviour of the groundwater dependent ecosystem of Biguglia (Corsica, France). This coastal lagoon is the largest wetland of Corsica Island, located at the south of the densely urbanized region of Bastia. A combined sociological (land uses data) and groundwater hydrochemical approach (physico-chemical parameters, isotopic signatures of water (^{18}O , 2H), nitrate ($^{15}\text{N}\text{-NO}_3$, $^{18}\text{O}\text{-NO}_3$), boron (^{11}B) and tritium (^3H)) are used to propose a global dynamic scheme for the hydrosystem and to better constrain pollution sources. Geochemical data and nitrate concentrations show clearly the groundwater quality degradation induced by sewage and manure. Investigations on groundwater age highlight that nitrogen pollution is the result of present but also past human activities linked to land use modifications since the last 50 years. Improved wastewater management strategies and updated policies in agricultural and urbanization rules are potential solutions for the promotion of a sustainable water resources management in this region of Corsica.

Session 4A
Energy and Environment

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 9:00-10:00

Venue: Room 1&2

Optimum Facilities and Operations for Renewable Energy in Isolated Small Islands

Tomonobu SENJYU
Faculty of Engineering
University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

It is important to use various renewable energies to prevent global warming. Also, in order to use renewable energy in island regions, economic issue for energy supply must also be considered. In this research, we propose optimal equipment capacity and optimal operation method to use promising various renewable energies in each island. In order to make effective use of renewable energy, it is necessary to introduce an energy storage device such as a energy storage system. Therefore, in this research, we evaluate the optimum capacity of storage battery and renewable energy together with economy issue. In order to make effective use of renewable energy, not only optimal control on the power generation side but also control on the demand side is required. Therefore, by utilizing the demand response of customers using the real-time electricity price system, we are trying to further improve the economic efficiency of electric power systems in remote islands.

Understanding the role of universities' technology transfer activities in the economic development of islands

Laura CIUCCI

UMR CNRS 6240 LISA

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

The purpose of this research is to explore the role played by universities in explaining local economic development. This topic seems particularly relevant in the present knowledge-based economy (Goldstein, 2009; Huggins and Kitagawa, 2009; Cowan and Zinovyeva, 2013). Indeed, innovation policies, both at local and international level, are now at the top of decision-makers' agenda (Lambert Review of University-Business Interaction, 2003; Law on innovation and research in France, 1999). As a direct consequence, a greater attention has been given to universities, which in a large number of countries, beside the classical teaching and research activities, are now deputed to foster the so-called "Third Mission" (Perkmann et al., 2013; Etzkowitz, 2002).

This issue is even more important in the case of island territories for which it is really essential to use all endogenous development levers, in order to overcome all the obstacles related to their relative geographic isolation.

The paper's goal is thus twofold. Firstly, it aims to investigate the extent to which island universities can impact regional economy, especially through technological and knowledge transfer activities (patents, licenses, spinoffs, research and consulting contracts...) that have dramatically increased during the last decades (D'Este and Iammarino, 2010; Fisher et al. 2009). The activities of academic knowledge and technologies transfer present a double benefit: on the one hand, they can generate adjunctive resources for universities, which suffer from public grants decline; on the other hand, they could contribute to reinforce University-Industry collaborations and to invest in research projects in line with local demand and needs, allowing the society to benefit from public research outputs. Secondly, this work intends to understand if such expected impacts (and the universities' strategies associated to) differ from the ones in non-insular territories.

In order to address this issue, an empirical analysis is performed taking Italy as a case study.

Session 4B

Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 2

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 9:00-10:00

Venue: Room 3

Seaweed in island economies - what can we learn from the past?

Magdalena BLANZ

University of the Highlands and Islands

[Abstract]

Seaweed is a rich, sustainable resource naturally occurring on almost all rocky shore islands. While widely exploited by East and Southeast Asian countries, the harvest of wild seaweed as well as farming seaweed are very uncommon in Europe today. However, the around 800-year-old Icelandic Grágás laws for example, detailing access rights to seaweeds, indicate that this was not always the case. This presentation will show how seaweed was exploited in Europe in the past, how historical and cultural factors have influenced island communities in the North-east Atlantic Ocean to largely ignore seaweeds as a resource today, and what can be drawn from this for future island perspectives.

The study of archaeological remains, historical documents and ethnographical accounts has shown a wide variety of uses for seaweeds on North-east Atlantic islands, including the use of seaweed as fertilizer and the consumption of seaweed by humans and livestock. However, as the word “weed” indicates, seaweed was not always held in high esteem, and even considered a famine food by outsiders in the past.

Particularly during the 18th to 19th century, seaweed on the North-east Atlantic Islands was mainly burnt and the resulting alkaline ash sold to glass and soap production industries. The end of the Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815) allowed for improved trade with Spain, leading to the import of the much cheaper barilla ash, which can replace seaweed ash in industrial processes. This caused the seaweed industry on North-east Atlantic islands to collapse, with seaweeds left largely unexploited in Europe to this day.

Only over the last decades have seaweeds become more popular in Europe, eaten primarily in the form of sushi. Not least in light of the growing world population and the need for more food, seaweed is a valuable sustainable resource whose exploitation may greatly benefit European islands.

The Forms and Characteristics of Stone Fish Weirs in Penghu: an Investigation from 2005 to 2012

Ming-Ju LEE

Development of Tourism and Leisure

National Penghu University of Science and Technology

Hui-kuei HSIEH

Department of Applied Foreign Languages

National Penghu University of Science and Technology

[Abstract]

The development of Penghu stone fish weirs has its long history. According to historical records, the stone fish weirs were first discovered in 1696 and was recognized as the most important underwater heritage of Taiwan. They were listed as one of the 18 potential world heritage sites of Taiwan by the Ministry of Culture, Republic of China (Taiwan) in 2009. In order to investigate the quantity and characteristics of Penghu stone fish weirs, this study used field records and satellite imageries to conduct a field survey from 2005 to 2012. The result showed that the accumulated number of the stone fish weirs found was 609 in total, which should be the highest density and the most well-preserved stone fish weirs in the world.

Based on the data analysis, the forms of the stone fish weirs (number and percentages), from the most to the least were: curved shaped weirs (274, 44.99%), single-heart weirs (256, 42.04%), and twin-hearts weirs (27, 4.43 %).

Additionally, 52 more weirs (8.54%) were passed on by word of mouth or from the documentary records. Their existence was still under examined. According to the measuring data analysis, the length of the stone weir from the shortest to the longest was from about 18 meters to 1349 meters and was 323 meters long averagely. The height of the stone weir from the shortest to the tallest was from about 1 meter to nearly 4 meters and was 1.4 meters high averagely. The width of the stone weir from the narrowest to the widest was from about 1 meter to nearly 2.5 meters and about 1.7 meters wide averagely, structuring like a trapezoid. Finally, the distribution of stone weirs from the most to the least (percentages) was Baisha Township (24.9%), Xixiang Township (14.94%) and Magong City (12.97%), while the Southern Islands (1.31%) were the least (46.47%).

Session 5A

Relationship with Externalities:
“Mainlands,” “Great Powers,” and
Other Islands/ Islanders and the
Power of Local Communities,
Part 1

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 10:10-12:10

Venue: Room 1&2

"In search of stable peace and security—a three-islands initiative Peace for the Sea"

Katarzyna PODLIPSKA

Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences

University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

From 2012 tensions in the East Asia are on the rise with China's ships breaching the Japanese territorial waters, nuclear and missile tests conducted by North Korea, American rebalance to Asia and increasing military expenditures. States and traditional security concept based on military power not only failed to provide stable peace and security; they also led to the militarization of the region.

Residents of Okinawa, Jeju and Taiwan feel particularly insecure due to the strategic location of the islands and the presence of military bases and installations on their land. Concerns about the present security environment led them to join their efforts and creating an alternative to security based on military power. They came up with an idea to organize "Peace for the Sea" International Peace Camp to bring together activists, students and regular people from different islands of the region to build solidarity among islands and their people, learn and share experiences of each island's struggle against state, corporate and military violence, rethink democracy and find ways towards sustainable peace for people and their environment.

The first camp took place in 2014 and is held annually. The initiative managed to produce a sense of unity, understanding and trust between the participants who conceptualized "Just Security"—an alternative (to traditional) security concept based on networked people's power. "Islands' community", "Sea Olympics" and "Demilitarized Peace Area" are other concepts and ideas born during the Peace for the Sea camps.

The presentation will explain in more detail the origins of the initiative and its aims and outcomes, present Just Security Concept and its elements and compare it with traditional security concept, and discuss shortly other concepts and ideas that are part of islands' attempt to create security on the people-to-people level.

Dependency theory and the Philippines' BOP Performance

Pedro MUÑOZ-RAMÍREZ

Faculty of Law and Letters

University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

The main postulates of the World Systems Theory are that the world capitalist system is divided into a center and a periphery, and according to some theorists, there is also a third division, the semiperiphery. This center of the system develops at the expense of the periphery, while the periphery becomes more and more dependent on the events that happen in the center (Brewer, 1982).

According to Dos Santos (1970), financial-industrial dependence consists on the center dominating investment capital, and it expands capital overseas through investment in raw materials and agriculture for consumption in the hegemonic centers. Because of this pattern of capital investment, countries in the periphery developed productive structures devoted to the export of products for consumption in the center, conditioning industrial development to the fluctuations in the balance of payments.

Due to characteristics like geography, resource availability and overall more complicated logistics for exchange, it is believed that island territories can be more sensitive to the center-periphery dynamic. Especially when it comes to islands that have also suffered from colonial domination, as in the case of the Philippines, due to the radical economic, political and social changes that it underwent while it was a colony, particularly when it was under Spanish rule, for more than 300 years. Its undeniable that the archipelago has been deeply changed socially and politically, but how has the center-periphery dynamic affected modern Philippines' economic performance? Is this theory sufficient for explaining the Philippines' BOP deficit periods in recent years?

To shed light over these questions, the proposed paper contents an analysis of the politico-economic reasons of the deficit periods in the Philippines' Balance of Payments of the last fourteen years, for determining if Dos Santos' financial-industrial dependence concept is the major influence factor on the Philippines' BOP deficit.

Dependence or independence for former colonial island territories : an empirical analysis

Claire GOAVEC

UMR CNRS LISA

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

With the end of colonialism, many authors have questioned the reasons why some small island economies have remained politically dependent to their former colonial state. These authors have shown that beyond a certain lack of enthusiasm to initiate domestic conflicts considered "useless" by some islanders, the reason for this dependence is mostly financial. Free trade, export preferences, access to capital and labor markets, subsidies and social assistance, provision of quality infrastructure, and external defense (McElroy and Mahoney, 2000) lead to question of the interest of political independence.

While non-politically independent small states perform economically on average much better than dependent ones, the question of the quality of this performance may arise. Bertram (2003) showed that the development of dependent islands tended to converge towards the development of their metropolitan region. Also, it should be noted that in terms of credibility and confidence, the status of a politically integrated territory confers a greater reliability in the reciprocity of relations with the rest of the world, which are simply harder to break. Independence, this kind of Holy Grail of the small island economies, is therefore questioned.

We talk about an insular propensity to dependence, due to internal and external facts and political and socio-economic justifications. We can question the necessity and the effects of the dependence of some island territories. In a world where small countries seem to be crushed by the big ones, the question of the desunification of some nations seems interesting. Therefore, the object of our study will be an empirical analysis of the effects of dependence of some island territories. This study allows us to assess the pros and cons of political independence from the economic, social and demographic points of view for these former colonial territories.

Political Protest from the Periphery: Social Movements and Global Citizenship in Okinawa

Gabriele VOGT

Institute for Asian and African Studies

University of Hamburg

[Abstract]

The people of Okinawa, where to this day three quarters of U.S. military facilities in Japan are hosted, for many decades, have triggered multiple waves of upheaval of local social movements against what is perceived a discriminatory deployment policy carried out by Japan's central government. This presentation traces and compares the development of social movements in two decisive moments of recent Okinawan history: a) the reversion movement of the late 1960s, and b) the period of massive island-wide protests following the rape of an Okinawan schoolgirl by three U.S. military personnel in the fall of 1995. Activists in the 1960s advocated for a reversion under Japan's "peace constitution", and, amidst a profound disappointment with the conditions of reversion, re-emerged as a movement challenging the meaning of Japan's pacifism. In the 1990s, activists openly opposed the central governments' base siting policy, and demanded a reform of the political system towards a stronger decentralization. In both cases, the activists' claims were framed as grounded in concerns over peace, the right to political participation and environmental protection, i.e. as universal demands of global citizens. These frames have eventually paved the way to transboundary activism, and continue to challenge the Japanese nation-state to this day. Moreover, they reflect the potential that is inherent in cross-border citizen action, which emancipates itself from the confinements of the political arena of a nation-state.

Session 5B: Panel Session

“Conservation of Island
ecosystem in Palau and Japan”

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 10:40-12:10

Venue: Room 3

Conservation of Island ecosystem in Palau and Japan

Takashi NAKAMURA, University of the Ryukyus (Chair)

Golbuu YIMNANG, Palau International Coral Reef Center

Marine GOUEZO, Palau International Coral Reef Center

Kaoruko MIYAKUNI, University of the Ryukyus

Giovanni MASSUCI, University of the Ryukyus

Piera BIONDI, University of the Ryukyus

Yuka KUSHIDA, University of the Ryukyus

Shiori KUNIHIRO, University of the Ryukyus

Evelyn OTTO, University of the Ryukyus

[Abstract]

A joint research project called P-CoRIE (Palau Coral Reef Island Ecosystem) has started in 2014 under the umbrella of JST/JICA SATREPS scheme. During the Project, natural science and social science researches in both Palau and Japan have been conducted. These researches are focused on the topics closely related to coral reef islands such as long-term coral reef monitoring, environmental changes due to global and local impacts, reef recovery potentials, residents' attitude toward tourism development, economic evaluation of coral reef ecosystem and biodiversity of coral reef organisms. In this session, we will present the scientific outcomes of these researches as well as current issues in conserving island ecosystems as well as its society in Palau and Japan. We'll also report and discuss potential implications for further collaboration to ensure the long-term management strategies for conservation in Palau and Japan.

Session 6A

Relationship with Externalities:
“Mainlands,” “Great Powers,” and
Other Islands/ Islanders and the
Power of Local Communities,
Part 2

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 13:10-15:45

Venue: Room 1&2

Universidad de La Laguna: alternative attractiveness based on Research Institutes

Carmen RUBIO ARMENDARIZ

Vice rectorate for Internationalization

Universidad de La Laguna (University of La Laguna)

[Abstract]

The University of La Laguna has managed to take its insularity and create a total of 12 powerful and attractive university research institutes and 1 Regional Research Center. These centers of great importance and intense activity are engaged in scientific, technical and artistic research. They may be specific to the institution (ie, composed of staff of the ULL and exclusive dependence on it) or mixed (created in collaboration with other public or private bodies by agreement). The university research institutes are organized by areas. Thus, there is a multidisciplinary area with the “Institute of Women's Studies”. The area of Experimental Sciences includes the “University Institute of Astrophysics”, the “University Institute of Advanced Studies in Atomic, Molecular and Photonics” and the “University Institute of Materials and Nanotechnology”. The Health Sciences area presents three Institutes (Institute of bioorganic Antonio González; University Institute of Tropical Diseases and Public Health of the Canary Islands; Institute of Biomedical Technologies). The Social and Legal Sciences area is also composed of three institutes: the “Institute of Political and Social Sciences”; the “Institute of Regional Development” and the “Institute of Business”. The Humanities area includes the “University Institute of Linguistics Andres Bello” and the “University Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies”. Likewise, the University of La Laguna has the Canary Center for Biomedical Research (Cibican).

The identity value of Corsican production

Dominique PRUNETTI and Claudio DETOTTO

UFR Droit, Sciences Sociales Economiques et de Gestion

University of Corsica Pasquale Paoli - UMR CNRS 6240 LISA

[Abstract]

The goal of this contribution is to quantify the identity value of local production, using Corsica as a case study. Apart from the nutritional, healthy and organoleptic qualities of local products, their consumption tends to develop a sense of belonging to the place they are produced: in other words, it is not just food to be consumed, but it is also an experience that allows consumers to connect with local heritage, for instance due to the originality of the techniques or the quality of the ingredients employed. We can say that both material and immaterial local patrimony is transferred to the products, increasing consumers' willingness to pay and consequently their market value. It is precisely this component, i.e. the one associated with the identity value, that we aim to isolate and estimate by means of a choice experiments method.

Community food resilience island style

John Matthew STANSFIELD

Social Practice

Unitec

[Abstract]

Waiheke Island, less than 50km from Auckland city is a world away culturally and particularly in its approach to sustainability. Local Government on Waiheke was the first in the world to declare itself nuclear-free and much of the protest flotilla against French atmospheric nuclear testing sailed from Waiheke. It was also the first to declare itself Genetic Modification (GM) free. Throughout its history, Waiheke has had a fractious relationship with mainland authority and Government. This relationship is examined through the lens of roadside fruit plantings on the public road reserve. The contemporary study follows over 100 years of history through public records and participant interviews. The impacts on island food security and sustainability are discussed and the components of successful governance are examined with the governors and the governed. The author, a participant observer, has a colorful approach to the issue which garners public support and builds pride and resilience through a mixed media, community development praxis.

Asian influences in Palau

Yuping CHEN

Research Center of Humanistic Innovation and Social Engagement

Taipei Medical University

[Abstract]

Palau is a small island, located in Micronesia and lies among Taiwan, the Philippines and Guam. There are around 20, 000 population on the island, and the majority are Palauans which belong to Austronesian speakers. After 1970, many young Palauns migrated to the US, Guam and Hawaii, due to the shortage of labor, the local government started to introduce foreign workers, especially from the Philippines and Bangladeshi. In addition, more and more Japanese, Taiwanese and Koreans start business in Palau after 1980s. Although Palau is known as a Pacific country, it has been intertwined with its neighbor countries' influences for a long time, but very few research was conducted. Either Asian influences were neglected as background information, or Asian influence has not been taken as a way to analyze the phenomenon in Pacific.

Today in Palau, the number of Filipino are around 7,000, make up about 35% of the entire population of Palau, and make up the second-largest ethnic group. They compose of the major labor forces in Palau because most Palauan young people have emigrated to Guam, Hawaii, and the US for work and education. Filipino workers not only replace the young people's social role in Palau's family, such as taking care their children and elders, they also replace the role of cultural inheritance practitioners because they are asked to do some works which contain traditional knowledge, such as taro planting, fishing, preparing traditional ceremonial exchange, etc. While these Filipino workers trying hard to learn Palauan traditional knowledge by the work they were requested to help, the Palauan young generation are embracing American life style and are unwilling to learn their own "traditional way." Some scholars are worried that Palauans' cultural inheritance would be in danger if they keep hiring these Filipino workers to be their house maid, but on the other hand, Palauans need these foreign workers' labor forces to support their country's operation.

This paper is to investigate how Palauans deal with the necessity of importing foreign workers while they also need to maintain their traditional culture and knowledge in the age of globalization.

Environmental politics and islander innovation: Small island developing states as leaders on climate change

James ELLSMOOR

University of the Highlands and Islands

[Abstract]

The governments and citizens of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have become leading figures in the global climate change debate – both in intergovernmental negotiations and civil society discourse.

Literature has emerged around SIDS roles in these negotiations examining their leadership and their reframing of the climate change debate, despite being traditionally marginalized entities in international politics. Meanwhile, a growing body of literature is emerging on islander innovation, that frames the geographical nature of islands as a driver of islanders' creativity and entrepreneurship, including in spheres of governance and policy.

This paper brings together these two distinct fields of research to examine the interplay between them to examine the question: How does islander innovation shape SIDS roles in global climate change discourse and negotiations? I argue that SIDS leadership on climate change has been propelled, in part, through innovative practices shaped by island geography. Drawing on specific examples from four SIDS, the analysis suggests that SIDS can use the perceived disadvantages of smallness and isolation to become engines of innovation that create significant impact on climate change politics and mitigation efforts within and beyond their own shores.

Session 6B-1

Diversity in Island Perspective:
Culture, Nature, Language,
Gender and Society, Part 2

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 13:10-14:10

Venue: Room 3

The Will To Live: Shang Shang Typhoon and the Musicality of Identity in anime movie "Ponpoko: The Heisei Tanuki War" (1994, Studio Ghibli/Takahata Isao)

Maria Mihaela GRAJDIAN

School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences

Nagasaki University

[Abstract]

This presentation focuses on the soundtrack of the anime movie *Ponpoko: The Heisei Tanuki War* (*Heisei tanuki gassen ponpoko*, 1994, director: Takahata Isao) composed and presented by the Japanese ethno-pop band Shang Shang Typhoon, active during the 1980s and 1990s. While Shang Shang Typhoon's musical style could be best described as a mixture of various Japanese elements, including traditional music from Okinawa in *min'yô* style (the term *min'yô* being usually translated as „folk song“; it was used during the 20th century to designate traditional Japanese music from different regions), with Rock'n'Roll, Pop and Reggae influences, the unique juxtaposition of their exquisite sound with the visual representation of the mischievous tanuki, major figures descending from famous Japanese folk tales, serves under the direction of the cult anime director Takahata Isao to delivering two powerful messages: On one hand, there is the emotional conveyance of the ecological tribute so intimately attached to the Ghibli enterprise. On the other hand, there is the more profound message of life being the most important asset one possesses and could ever possibly possess. In analyzing the impact this combination of Okinawan ethno-pop with the tanuki imagery has on creating unexpected connections in the perception and processing of Japaneseness in its (predominantly) Japanese audiences, it is this presentation's goal to examine the arduous path from “domesticating plagiarism” to “hybridizing authenticity” in outlining a new identity paradigm based on love, compassion and self-confidence in late modernity.

Stewardship, Sustainability, and Hula: Applications for Traditional Knowledge in a Contemporary Context

Chai BLAIR-STAHN

Education

Hawai'i Nature Center

[Abstract]

Using the 'ōlelo no'ēau (wise saying) "I ka wā mamua, ka wā mahope (In the past is the future)" as a guiding principle, this paper considers the interrelationship between environmental stewardship, island sustainability, and traditional knowledge of hula (Hawaiian dance). As a dance form integrally interwoven with nature that evolved with and was shaped by the ecosystems of the Hawaiian Islands, hula contains a wealth of sustainable practices which can help re-solve contemporary environmental issues such as food security and negative impacts from invasive species.

This paper highlights six practices of hula based on interviews and conversations with hula practitioners and cultural practitioners closely associated with hula (lei makers, musicians), as well as the author's own experiences as a student of hula. Each traditional knowledge practice is applied holistically with contemporary approaches to re-solve environmental challenges of the twenty-first century. While these traditional practices align with, and in some cases, parallel contemporary sustainable practices, they add an invaluable element, as they are derived from within the Hawaiian worldview and are not bound by the social and economic structures from which sustainable and green innovations typically arise.

Session 6B-2

Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 3

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 14:15-15:15

Venue: Room 3

Income Inequalities and Insularity : Theoretical and empirical exploration from the case of Corsica

Julien CIUCCI

UMR CNRS LISA

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

The issue of income and wealth inequalities is one of the greatest economic and social concerns of the twenty first century. Developed countries have grown economically since the second part of the last century, but this growth has been accompanied by a rise of inequalities. If economic growth in these countries had slowed down the last few decades, inequalities have continued to increase drastically. Moreover, high level of inequalities can be observed also in most of developing countries, perhaps due to the fact that economic development only profits to a few sectors and little to the local population.

Income inequalities have been a subject of great interest in both theoretical and empirical economic literature for many years. One may distinguish studies on macroeconomic inequalities between regions and studies which focus on inequalities among individuals inside or between regions. Our study belongs to this second kind.

Most of the previous works have broached the inequalities in big cities, and have brought many enlightenments on the extent and the dynamic of this phenomenon in very industrialized and populated areas.

In this paper, we broach the case of Corsica. Indeed, INSEE datas indicate that Corsica is particularly affected by income inequalities, more than most other French regions. Inequalities in Corsica seem to be an interesting academic subject, as the main sources of inequalities named by the literature do not match with the particular Corsican case. Indeed, Corsican economy has several atypical characteristics like insularity, low population and an economic activity mainly based on public employment and tourism.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze in what extent these characteristics may explain the income inequalities observed in Corsica. Are there some specific explanations for this atypical region? From this particular case we tackle a larger issue: does insularity affects inequalities among individuals?

Sustainable development is a huge opportunity to create Tomorrow's island societies

Mathieu NIVON

Economy

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

Nowadays, each territory needs to generate its own economic dynamic. The consumption society is not viable in the long-term. One day, each territory will have to deal with it and make strong choices. The recent sustainability care and technological improvement constitutes a huge opportunity for Island Society to build sustainable economic systems and show the example to the rest of the world.

We can take the example of Corsica: this island belongs to France and its economy is based on three markets which can't guarantee its self-management: construction industry, which fluctuates with immovable market, public administration services, and tourism submitted to seasonality and to the national economic context. Indeed, 70% of the tourists come from France.

How can Island societies build a sustainable future while guaranteeing the development of an endogenous economy ?

Island Society needs to improve strong sectors such as agriculture to increase their self-management. It will also allow to build economies which includes global cares such as biologic agriculture or health, for example. Sustainable development also implies to respect the natural clock, and it becomes possible while keeping the same productivity thanks to process like permaculture, for example. In the 20th century, we used to work hard. In the 21st century, we have to work smart.

By reducing their economic circles, Islands will sustain local employment, respect more the environment, control resources easily, and maintain local cultures and know-how. Finally, islands will be able to become leaders by working in each other's hands. Indeed, islands are faced to specific issues that only other islands can understand. Cooperate, mix competences and knowledges and work in complementarity can make islands move forward to similar economic and ecological goals.

Session 7A

Island Economy and Its Sustainability, Part 4

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 15:55-17:25

Venue: Room 1&2

Cultural identity and willingness to protect and preserve art

Claudio DETOTTO

Laboratoire LISA - UMR 6240 CNRS

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

The aim of this paper is to analyse the willingness to pay of art-goers for the protection and preservation of cultural artefacts. To this purpose, a discrete choice experiment approach is employed. The experiment took place in 2011 during a major exhibition dedicated to the artist Costantino Nivola (1911- 1988). His works, especially those based on the novel sand-casting technique, are known worldwide and many of them were produced after he moved from the island of Sardinia (Italy) to the United States (where he lived from 1939 to his death in 1988). Over this period he never cut his ties with his native land. As a result, both the American and the Sardinian culture affect and show up in his works. In this context, the discrete choice experiments allowed us to estimate not only the price that people are prepared to pay for the security of Nivola's artefacts but also the contribution of non-market components, such as identity, to preserve those objects. Accounting for heterogeneity, the empirical findings show that among visitors there is a substantial willingness to partially cover the cost of preserving the cultural heritage, with significant differences related to the characteristics of the collections considered.

Economic interests vs Environmental conservation in islands : the case of Akamas, Cyprus

Pantelina EMMANOUILIDOU

Law school

University of Limoges, CRIDEAU

[Abstract]

The virgin peninsula of Akamas in western Cyprus, a national park, is one of the most cherished biodiversity pockets in Europe. Akamas should be preserved and remain as such. The ecological importance of Akamas is internationally recognized and its environment is protected by five different legal statuses.

However, part of the peninsula is owned by private landowners who are pressuring the government for the authorization to develop touristic infrastructure in the area. Environmental challenges are ignored by locals, who perceive “the environmentalists” as a threat to their economic development rights.

Expropriation could be a solution satisfying both nature conservation and indemnity of landowners, but the cost can be overwhelming. In the meantime, the European Commission has started infringement proceedings against Cyprus for failing to comply with UE environmental law.

Through this case study, the proposed talk demonstrates the urgent need to engage civil society when drafting environmental conservation policies. This is particularly crucial in islands, where the available land is limited and the few remaining environmental havens are often targeted for development. The Cyprus case illustrates that the classic contradiction between economic rights and environmental protection calls for singular solutions in islands.

Using Moran's I and GIS to study the spatial pattern in apartment prices in Corsica

Yuheng LING

Economics

University of Corsica

[Abstract]

Abstract

This paper investigates the spatial autocorrelation in transaction prices of apartments in Corsica, France. In the spatial econometrics literature, examining the spatial pattern in the dependent variable is a common approach before the statistical modeling.

The empirical analysis is conducted using an exploratory spatial data analysis (ESDA) with data for over 10000 transactions of apartments sold between 2006 and 2013. The apartments are geocoded and aggregated into two geographical levels, the section and municipality. The main findings of this study are shown as follows. We demonstrate the existence of significant positive spatial autocorrelation over eight years. The hot spots of apartment unit price are located in the northwest, west, south area of the island. The municipalities or sections that form the hot spots change over time. The main findings remind us to consider the spatial autocorrelation when we start the statistical modeling since the unawareness of spatial autocorrelation might cause the omit variables or model misspecification.

Session 7B
Education, Part 2

Date: Saturday, Nov. 18

Time: 15:25-17:25

Venue: Room 3

Internationalising Spanish Universities to Increase Intercultural Understanding: the Challenge of an Island University in Europe

Richard CLOUET

Vice-president for Internationalisation and Cooperation

University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

[Abstract]

Many Spanish academics still agree that the level of internationalisation is not high enough and that internationalisation policies still need to be implemented into the teaching/learning, research, support and service areas of activities. Moreover, time has come to seriously integrate an intercultural dimension in all these dimensions. This paper first outlines the concept of internationalisation of higher education in the literature and then goes on to describe how internationalisation policies are implemented in Spanish universities, and particularly at the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, an island university which has implemented a comprehensive strategy for internationalisation.

“Global Engagement: Cultivating English Education Programs Through Videoconference Collaboration”

Minako YOGI

Faculty of Education

University of the Ryukyus

Manuel Hechanova

University of Guam Manuel

Telecommunication and Distance Education Operation

[Abstract]

Evolution of ICT provided profound opportunities to instantaneously connect classrooms to the outside world. Numerous scholars explored the benefits and challenges of integrating technology in language education programs (O’Dowd, 2004; Wang, 2004). Incorporating interactive videoconference is an effective means for sharing information, thoughts, and communicating with people around the globe. The purpose of this study was to implement videoconferencing in a college freshmen English course to provide students an authentic environment, cultivate language and communication skills, improve presentation techniques, deepen cultural knowledge, and build problem-solving skills. A total of 245 freshmen participated in the collaboration with U of Guam TADEO Faculty during the academic years 2012 through 2017. Students gathered information on topics related to the content covered in freshmen English class (e.g. ecology) and created manuscripts and slides for the live presentation sessions. The concepts of CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) methods were integrated into the lessons (Coyle, 2007). Survey questions were developed by the author to obtain feedback on the following viewpoints: videoconference evaluation, global and cultural awareness, process and outcome of the collaborative project work, effects of interaction with the counterpart, issues on language skills, and perspectives for future careers. In addition, semi-structured interview questions were administered together with reflection journals. Results of the questionnaire and comments indicate that the majority of students were favorable of the content, task, and outcome of the videoconference collaboration. The findings also indicate that the participants considered the interactive experience extremely rewarding and motivating for improving language, communication skills, presentation techniques, impromptu negotiation skills and cultural awareness, which are inevitable components for becoming successful language learners. Consequently, incorporation of an innovative approach in English education programs may have potentials to provide genuine experience, facilitate distinctive learning opportunities, and enhance 21st century skills, which may generate promising individuals for this global era.

Island schools and their communities

John Matthew STANSFIELD

Social Practice

Unitec

[Abstract]

Remote Islands have a unique relationship with their schools and these schools with their communities. This study of the remote island schools of New Zealand explores this relationship through a series of case studies led by the researcher in visits and dialogue with school staff and governors and community leaders. The study examines the influence of indigenous culture on the relationship as well as the innovative approach to curriculum led by the lived experience of islanders and the tensions experienced with formal off island authorities. A palpable sense of place is evidenced and discussed with respect to its impact on the positioning of schools, education, children, and community.

Challenges and opportunities of postgraduate studies in the University of La Laguna (Canary Islands)

Carmen RUBIO ARMENDARIZ

Vice Rectorate for Internationalization

Universidad de La Laguna (University of La Laguna)

[Abstract]

University studies in islands not only have to compile with governmental demands but they also have to adapt to their own territory's characteristics and needs. This is also the case of the University of La Laguna, a public university in Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain. Its strategic location in the Atlantic Ocean, extremely close to Europe and Africa, and its relevant relations with South America, has also impressed an important fingerprint in its university studies.

This oral communication pretends to provide a general vision of how the University of La Laguna has adapted its postgraduate offer (Master Degrees and PhD studies) to its geographical, cultural and heritage characteristics. As an example, its prestigious Master Degree and PhD in Astrophysics is also a result of the high orography of the islands in which several strategic and international observatories are located. Terrestrial Biodiversity and Marine Biology are also two important areas which have found a good support, based on the fact that the islands are located in the Macaronesian Region, which climate is heavily influenced by the ocean, producing a high level of endemism and a high impact on biodiversity. Apart from them, there are also other relevant examples of a wider and interesting postgraduate offer.

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